

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael Frodsham on April 29, 2008.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 87 has been canceled because it is redundant.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: One reason for allowance is that the broadest claim as represented by claim 77 is not shown or taught by the prior art as claimed *inter alia* where a shaping device includes in combination a position detection device for detecting a triggering time when the relative motion of a pair of tools moveable relative to one another has reached a reference position, a handling device that securely holds the workpiece in a shaping position between the tools during shaping and a control device that determines a lifting time of the handling device as a function of the triggering time and actuating the handling device to lift the workpiece from the tools at the lifting time.

Thus, the prior art of record fails to show the combination where the control device performs a determination of the lifting time of the handling device as a function of the triggering time with the detection device detecting a triggering time. Applicants' disclosure sets forth the triggering time and determination by the control device at paragraphs [0064], [0065] and [0066] of the specification.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

INQUIRIES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner D. Crane whose telephone number is (571) 272-4516. The examiner's office hours are 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Documents related to the instant application may be submitted directly by facsimile transmission at all times. The Examiner's Fax number is (571) 273-4516. Applicant(s) is(are) reminded to clearly mark any transmission as "DRAFT" if it is **not** to be considered as an official response. The Office Facsimile Center number is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DCCrane
April 29, 2008

/Daniel C Crane/
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